



Communicable Disease Branch Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Weekly Key Points

November 3, 2020

The North Carolina Division of Public Health (NC DPH) Communicable Disease Branch will be releasing COVID-19 weekly key points that includes information discussed on the weekly Tuesday Local Health Department call. Recordings of the call will not be made available; please use the information below as a summary of the topics presented on the call. As guidance changes, please use the most recent information provided. For questions, contact the NC DPH Communicable Disease Branch 24/7 Epidemiologist on Call at **919-733-3419**.

Important Updates

- **New:** NCDHHS_LHD Weekly Webinar_11.03.2020.pdf (file attached)
- **New:** Travel Planner Reference Document (file attached)
- **New:** Next Week's LHD Weekly Call Agenda 11 10 2020.docx (file attached)
- **Updated:** Local Health Vaccine FAQ-DRAFT-Final 10.29.20.pdf (file attached)
- **Updated:** Reporting COVID-19 cases to State_10-2020_short.pdf (file attached)
- **Updated:** COVID19_Part2_11.2020_form.docx (file attached)
- **Updated:** Find My Testing Place (file attached)

State Epidemiologist Updates

- **Surge Toolkit**

The surge toolkit includes communication and templates to help get the word out about COVID-19 resources. The toolkit includes important information about prevention best practices, local testing sites and events, contact tracing efforts, and quarantine and isolation support. You can access the Surge Toolkit here: <https://files.nc.gov/covid/documents/Surge-Toolkit-Overview.pdf>

- **CDC Travel Planner Site**

The CDC has developed a web portal called Travel Planner—a centralized location for travelers to find COVID-19 information for the communities they're passing through and for their destinations. The expectation is that the state and/or local guidance will be entered into the portal and maintained by state and/or local health departments. While counties will be able to upload information specific to their jurisdiction if they so choose, the state has drafted statewide answers for upload to the portal in order to ease the burden on LHDs. The statewide answers to the 7 questions in the portal are included in the Travel Planner Reference Document (attached in weekly key points email).

If there are any questions, or a county would like to provide information specific to their jurisdiction beyond what is included below, please contact the Movement, Monitoring, and Notification Team at MMN.Team@dhhs.nc.gov



- **NC COVID Dashboard Updates**

Case demographic trends at state and county levels are anticipated to become available on Friday or early next week. Newly included demographic trends will include information about age, race, ethnicity and gender.

NC EDSS Updates

Please see the attached *Reporting COVID-19 cases to State* and *COVID19 Part 2* forms to assist with NC EDSS data entry.

State Laboratory of Public Health Updates

The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services and the Test Surge Workgroup developed a flowchart on [Using, Interpreting, & Responding to COVID-19 Antigen Tests](#) to accompany the Department's [Antigen Testing Guidance](#)

BinaxNOW Use Survey: https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=3IF2etC5mkSFw-zCbNftGTmHsMeGCK1ApNarC4kx_J9UNjVEN05aWEtKRudPTFdVMUUhYVFlaSTBFUy4u

Vaccination Updates

The Local Public Health Vaccine FAQs will be attached to the email accompanying they Key Points document.

Next week's LHD call will be dedicated to vaccination logistics updates; next week's agenda has been attached for your convenience. Please note: Next week's call will occur from 1:00pm – 2:30 pm, an extension of 30 minutes. Please plan accordingly.

Reimbursement for COVID-19 Related Primary Care Services for Uninsured Individuals Living in North Carolina

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) developed a program to reimburse primary care providers (PCP) for providing COVID-19 related primary care services (e.g. follow-up care) to uninsured individuals living in North Carolina. **The portal for providers to submit the request for reimbursement is live and can be accessed through the [NCTracks secure portal](#).** You can view this [special bulletin](#) for more information.

Resources to Support North Carolina Providers Responding to COVID-19

There are multiple programs available to support providers who are responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. Providers can receive much needed funds to help cover COVID-19 related primary care services and expenses. A



[fact sheet](#) and [chart](#) listing other supports available are on the [DHHS COVID-19 Response - Providers, Hospitals and Labs webpage](#) under *Resources to Support NC Providers Responding to COVID-19*.

Infection Prevention Updates

Clarification of LTCF presence on the outbreak list and visitation: Facilities will remain on the outbreak list for 28 days following the date of the most recent positive COVID result. A facility's presence on this list does not prevent visitation. Facilities are directed to follow NCDHHS and CMS guidance for visitation.

Find My Testing Place

Please review the updated 'Find My Testing Place LHD' Excel file weekly to ensure information is up to date and accurate. Please send the updated files or any related questions to SVC_Covid-19TestingSites@dhhs.nc.gov